

## SHORTAGE OF LABOR

U. S. TAKES STEPS TO MEET INCREASED DEMANDS FOR HELP.

## NEW EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Plan Provides for Mobilization of Three Million Workers for Agriculture, Shipbuilding and All War Contract Plants.

Washington, D. C.—Mobilization of 3,000,000 workers for agriculture, shipbuilding and war contract plants has been entrusted to the United States employment service by the department of labor.

John B. Denmore, of Montana, selector for the department of labor, will be national director of the employment service by appointment of secretary Wilson. He will have as his assistant Robert Watson, of Massachusetts, and Charles T. Clayton, of Maryland. Samuel J. Gompers, of New York, son of the labor leader, will succeed Mr. Watson as department's chief clerk.

The recommendations, made by the American delegates, of whom Col. E. M. House, president Wilson's personal representative, was the head, are the result of the great council of heads of all the co-belligerents.

A definite plan was formed for more active utilization of American naval forces, and an agreement was made with the British admiralty to effect certain plans for anti-submarine warfare.

The contribution of the United States to a pooling of war resources was agreed upon. The arrangement guarantees full equipment of every kind to be available to all American forces sent to Europe during 1918.

Arrangements were made to have the United States participate in military deliberation of a supreme war council "as a step toward efficient and centralized unity of control of military operations."

Plans also were worked out whereby, in order to permit the United States to visualize the problem of food control at home, Great Britain, France and Italy agreed to establish legalized and compulsory control of foodstuffs in their countries.

The extent of the military effort to be aimed at by the United States was clearly determined and an allied advisory board was created to advise each nation on allotments of ships so as to permit the American military effort to be realized.

Through the new inter-allied organization for co-ordination of shipping resources arrangements have been made to devote "the greatest amount of tonnage possible for the transportation of American troops."

The report was made public by Secretary Lansing says:

"A review of the report filed with the department of state by Colonel House the head of the special war mission which visited Great Britain and France in November, shows that it succeeded in its purpose of reaching a definite working plan for the prosecution of the war through co-operation of the government, represented at the conferences held in Paris, in the various fields of activity and through marshalling the resources of the nations at war with the central powers and co-ordinating their uses under common authority, avoiding the waste and uncertainties that arise from independent action."

"The results of the conferences were most gratifying to this government, first, because they indicate that the conferees were inspired by the desire to be mutually helpful, and second, because the agreements, which were reached, when in full operation will greatly increase the effectiveness of the efforts now being put forth by the United States and the allies in the conflict against Germany and Austria-Hungary."

## QUARTERMASTER OFFICE FOR GOETHALS

Quartermaster General to Serve as Director of War Transportation.

Washington, D. C.—Reorganization of the war department, began with the creation last month of the war council of high general officers, advanced a step farther with the appointment by Secretary Baker of Major General Geo. W. Goethals, acting quartermaster general, to serve as director of war department transportation and storage.

Wide economies in the use of cars and in shipping charges are expected from a centralization in one agency of functions heretofore exercised by five departmental bureaus independently.

General Goethals as acting quartermaster general, directs the supply, maintenance and pay departments of an army supplemented by the emigration and other services already established in his office, each with a general officer in charge. Under the new order he will in addition supervise transportation of all ordnance, engineers, signal corps, aviation services and coast artillery material, as well as quartermaster supplies and shops.

All bureaus heretofore independent in this regard have been directed to subordinate their demands upon the broad and upon storage facilities through the director of railroads, the shipping board or any other centralized agency for transportation or storage, presenting complete schedules of cars and tonnage needed and working out routing and storage so as to get a most efficient use of the nation's facilities.

## To Control Twine Supply.

Washington, D. C.—The food administration has arranged to control the supply of binder twine important to farmers, particularly in the granger states. Reasonable prices, though not so low as former ones, are expected. The control will be effected through voluntary agreements the binder twine makers have made with the food administration which will centralize the buying and eliminate competition. An official announcement gives warning of higher cost of materials and reasonable differentials for manufacturing will not permit the price to be as low in former years.

## Perish in Chinese Waters.

Shanghai.—The China Merchants navigation company's steamer Poochi was sunk in collision with the same company's steamer Hsin-Chang in the river Yangtze Kiang. It is estimated that 100 lives were lost, including the captain, chief officer and second engineer. The Poochi registered 1,649 tons.

## Shoe Trust Cases.

Washington, D. C.—The government's motion to postpone because of war further consideration of several important anti-trust suits was granted by the supreme court, with the exception of the case against the Shoe machinery company, which will go forward.

## Dies at a Hotel.

St. Louis, Mo.—John T. Long, president of the Ozark Valley railway, died at a hotel here. His body was taken to Kansas City, his home, for burial.

## Are Killed in France.

Washington, D. C.—Death of Lieutenant William S. Ely and Sergeant George E. Houdek, in an airplane accident in France, were reported by General Pershing. Ely lived at Rochester, N. Y., and Houdek at Chicago.

## TO RUSH U. S. ARMY

RECOMMENDATIONS AT ALLIES' COUNCIL FOR WINNING WAR ANNOUNCED BY LANSING.

## POOL SHIPS TO SEND MEN

Shipping and Supplies Placed at Disposal of Americans and Closer Union Between Co-Belligerents Is Assured.

Washington, Jan. 4.—American troops are to be rushed to Europe in as large and constant a stream as is humanly possible; the allied nations will so arrange their shipping as to provide the necessary transport; the merchant shipbuilding program must be rushed; there is to be closer co-operation of all the co-belligerents to present a single and united front to German autocracy; the part of the United States has been clearly defined and arrangements made to carry it out.

These are the principal results, as they affected America, of the recent inter-allied war council in Paris.

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## RUSS TO REJECT FOE'S PEACE

Germany's Demands Are Held Too Unreasonable—Kaiser Is for Annexation.

Petrograd, Jan. 4.—The chances of a separate peace between Russia and the central powers being effected seem remote because of what are regarded as Germany's unreasonable demands.

Leon Troitzky, the bolshevik foreign minister, and his associates take the stand that the Baltic provinces are in reality under military pressure while they continue to be occupied by Germany.

M. Kamaneff, a member of the Russian peace delegation, read the German terms, which he characterized as showing the positive annexation plans of the central powers, and he declared they were unacceptable in their present form. He added that the terms had not been discussed.

## Mine, Washed Ashore, Kills Seven.

London, Jan. 4.—Seven persons were killed and 24 injured by the explosion of a mine that was washed ashore between Ramsgate and Deal. The explosion occurred while an attempt was being made to haul it out on land.

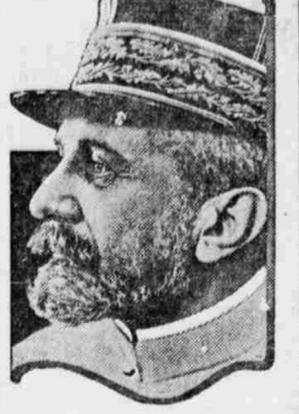
## Sweden Gets Supplies.

Stockholm, Jan. 4.—The Svenska Dagbladet ascribes to the Swedish foreign office information that negotiations with the United States have been concluded satisfactorily. Coffee, petroleum and drugs will arrive soon.

## Held as Canadian Deserter.

Chicago, Jan. 4.—Six months ago Thomas Cashion, 5324 Lake Park avenue, went to Canada and enlisted in the Canadian army. He was arrested upon the request of the Canadian government as a deserter in his home.

## GENERAL GRAZIANI



General Graziani, former chief of the major staff of the French army, who has been appointed commander of the Legion of Honor. He was obliged to relinquish his former important position because of illness.

## TELL NEEDS OF ARMY

GENERALS GREBLE AND WRIGHT BEFORE SENATE BODY.

Declare Pershing Ample Supplied With Ordnance and Clothing—Camp Bowie, Tex., Short.

Washington, Dec. 31.—Maj. Gen. Edwin St. J. Greble, commander at Camp Bowie, Tex., told the senate military affairs committee on Friday that shortages at that camp ranged from 50 per cent in rifles to 92 per cent in artillery harness.

Although all the men at Camp Doniphan, Okla., are now well-clothed, the command is still short for over-seas service and has not enough equipment in rifles and heavy guns for the most efficient training, Maj. Gen. William Wright, the commander, told the committee. General Wright and General Greble, both of whom recently returned from the French battle front, were examined by the committee in executive session as to the equipment of General Pershing's forces and equipment at National army cantonments. Then in a public hearing they were questioned as to their own camps.

General Pershing's troops, the officers said, have ample supplies of all kinds, including ordnance, although most of the heavy artillery is borrowed from the allies. They said that the American expedition has plenty of clothing and that the only deficiency in accoutrement was in motortrucks.

Secretary Baker, in response to a resolution passed unanimously last Wednesday urging the war department to forego routine in supplying winter clothing at various camps, replied by letter that conditions had improved by receipt of belated supplies and that steps were taken immediately to remedy shortages.

## AGREE TO FREE PRISONERS

Liberation of Captives and Resumption of Commercial Relations Decided Upon.

Brest-Litovsk, Jan. 2.—Provisional agreement on a series of important points, including liberation of war prisoners and resumption of commercial relations was reached by the delegates of Russia and the central powers in discussion of issues which, in the event of a general peace, would have to be settled among the nations represented in the negotiations here.

This provisional discussion was terminated on Friday, the basis of an agreement adopted being reached under the reservation that it was to be examined by the governments represented by the delegates.

Speedy resumption of diplomatic and consular relations is embraced in the understanding. It is set forth that there shall be immediate stoppage of economic warfare, establishment of commercial intercourse and the organized exchange of commodities.

A substantial understanding was arrived at on which the basis of economic relations shall be settled permanently.

## ITALIANS WIN BIG VICTORY

Force Austrian Troops Back Over the Piave River and Capture Zenson Bridgehead.

Rome, Jan. 3.—The Austrians were compelled in consequence of Indian operations to abandon the Zenson bridgehead, where they had a lodgment on the western bank of the Piave river, and pass to the eastern bank of the river, the war office reports.

All the Zenson bend is now held by the Italians.

## Father and Son Found Dead.

Chicago, Jan. 4.—Seated in an automobile truck in a barn at 3125 Union avenue, the bodies of Edward Goldsworthy, forty-five years old, a chauffeur, and his twelve-year-old son, Thomas, were found.

## \$84,566,600 Gold Produced.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Production of gold in the United States for the year 1917 amounted to 4,085,585 fine ounces, valued at \$84,566,000, and of silver 74,244,500 fine ounces, value not mentioned.

## PLOTTERS FIRE CITY

TWO BLOCKS IN BUSINESS DISTRICT OF NORFOLK, VA., SWEEP BY FLAMES.

## MARTIAL LAW IS DECLARED

German Plot to Destroy Town Suspected—Hugo Schmidt and H. K. Lessing Arrested—Property Loss Placed at \$5,000,000.

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 3.—Norfolk was swept by a series of mysterious fires on Tuesday which did \$5,000,000 damage. German agents are blamed.

Hugo Schmidt and H. K. Lessing, suspected of starting the fire, have been arrested, charged with incendiarism. A German plot to destroy the city is suspected. Schmidt claimed to be an employee of the department of justice.

Norfolk is under martial law. The fire wiped out two blocks in the heart of the business section.

Fifteen persons, suspected of complicity in a plot to destroy the city, are examined by agents of the department of justice.

Federal authorities have established special offices and secret service men were rushed from Washington.

The fires destroyed houses, hotels and apartments. Several explosions marked the progress of the conflagrations. The Monticello hotel, which was destroyed, was headquarters of army and naval officers. A thousand bluejackets from the navy yard, 500 Home Guard troops and many volunteer special officers are patrolling the streets.

One fireman was killed and three seriously hurt.

Cold weather, freezing hydrants and bad weather conditions generally interfered with the work of the firemen.

Because of the importance of Norfolk in connection with war preparations, officials are making a general roundup of all suspicious characters.

## NATION'S BIG FOOD SURVEY

Duties of Holders of Foodstuffs Outlined by Charles J. Brand, Chief of Bureau.

Washington, Jan. 1.—All dealers in and holders of foodstuffs in quantities substantially greater than family supplies should report in the war emergency food survey of the United States to be made as of January 1, even though they do not receive inquiry blanks by mail, according to a statement made here by Charles J. Brand, chief of the bureau of markets of the United States department of agriculture, who has the big war inventory in charge.

"We have attempted to send schedules from Washington to each of the hundreds of thousands of firms and individuals who handle the food supply of the country, but obviously it has been physically impossible to reach them all," said Mr. Brand. "All dealers, manufacturers and warehousemen having any food in their possession, and all other concerns, such as hotels and institutions having more than \$250 worth of food on hand, should arrange to report their holdings of December 31, whether schedules have been delivered to them or not. In case they do not receive schedules by January 2, they should write for copies to the bureau of markets, United States department of agriculture, at Washington, or should call at or write to one of the many branch offices throughout the country."

## CITY RAZED BY QUAKE

CAPITAL OF GUATEMALA PRACTICALLY WIPED OFF MAP.

One Thousand Persons Killed and 125,000 Are Homeless in Streets, Says Reports.

Washington, Jan. 2.—Guatemala City, the capital of Guatemala, has been wiped off the map by earthquake; 1,000 persons are dead and 125,000 are homeless in the streets.

News of the destruction of the city reached Washington in a cablegram from Guatemala City received by the navy department through its radio system.

Orders have been issued by the navy department to all of its vessels in the vicinity of the Gulf of Honduras and the Pacific coast of Guatemala to give all the assistance possible to the stricken populace.

The American consulate was destroyed in the quake that occurred between December 25 and 28.

The American legation building was standing on the 28th, but was filled with refugees. It also has gone down, according to the latest report.

Our charge d'affaires was instructed by Secretary Lansing to inform President Cabrera that this country desired to be of every possible assistance to the sister republic.

## CREW BLAMED FOR WRECK

Eight Persons Killed in Head-On Collision Near North Vernon, Ind.—Order Disregarded.

Cincinnati, O., Jan. 2.—C. W. Galloy, general manager of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, gave out a statement here in which he said disobedience of orders was responsible for the collision of passenger trains No. 2, bound from St. Louis to New York, and No. 23, from Cincinnati to St. Louis, near North Vernon, Ind.

North Vernon, Ind., Jan. 2.—Eight persons were killed and 20 injured as the result of a head-on collision between Baltimore & Ohio trains a mile east of here Saturday night.

## BRITISH KILL 1,000 TURKS

Forces Under General Allenby Make Further Progress in Palestine and Take 750 Prisoners.

London, Jan. 3.—British forces in Palestine under command of General Allenby have made further progress along the battle line north of Jerusalem, the British war office announced. More than a thousand Turks were killed and 750 were taken prisoner.

The statement follows:

"The British line has been still further advanced north of Jerusalem. From Thursday to Saturday inclusive, we took prisoner 750 Turks, including 39 officers. Up to the present 1,000 enemy dead have been counted."

French Down Six Airplanes.

Paris, Jan. 3.—Six German airplanes were put out of action by the French, it is announced officially. Artillery fighting continues at various points on the front, but no large infantry actions are reported.

## Year's Exports Six Billions.

Washington, Jan. 3.—America's exports were estimated at the department of commerce to have passed the \$6,000,000,000 mark in 1917, a new high record. Imports were less than \$3,000,000,000.

## Ten Die From the Cold.

New York, Jan. 3.—A lengthened death roll, a rapidly dwindling coal supply, made winter's grip on New York and vicinity a grim actuality. Ten persons had perished from the cold.

## ESTHER CLEVELAND



The engagement of Esther Cleveland, daughter of former President Cleveland, to Captain Bosanquet of the Coldstream Guards, has been announced in London. Captain Bosanquet is a son of Sir Albert Bosanquet and has been decorated with the distinguished service order. Miss Cleveland went to London in June, 1916, after having qualified as a nurse and instructor of the blind and took up work as a volunteer at St. Dunstan's Home for Blinded Soldiers.

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## COST OF EDUCATION

Value of School District Property Now Exceeds \$28,000,000

The public schools of Nebraska, during the year ending July, 1917, spent nearly \$12,000,000, according to a compilation made by State Superintendent W. H. Clemmons from reports filed by county superintendents. The total enrollment of pupils was 292,362 and the average daily attendance was 219,246. The cost of education per pupil on an enrollment basis was \$40.77 for the year, and the cost, based on the daily attendance, was \$54.33.

There are 12,697 teachers in Nebraska schools and only 1,448 of that number are male teachers. The average monthly salary of male teachers was \$75.80 and for female teachers the average was \$53.10. The compilation of the state superintendent contains the following statistical matter.

Nebraska School Statistics

Counties	88
School districts	5,250
School houses	7,689
Teachers employed	12,697
Males	1,448
Females	11,249
Total	12,697
Average monthly salary—	
Males	\$75.80
Females	\$53.10
Teachers' wages—	
Males	\$1,097,104.57
Females	5,751,651.67
Total	\$6,848,756.24
Buildings and sites	1,456,438.36
Repairs	516,419.18
Fuel	539,111.82
Library books	28,747.57
Text books and supplies	458,246.92
Furniture	174,614.65
For all other purposes	1,851,294.32
Total	\$11,921,859.05
Amount in hands of district treasurers	\$2,675,848.28
Value of school district property	28,428,599.11

Total indebtedness \$9,763,742.45

Children of school age (6-21)	357,394
Total enrollment	292,362
Average daily attendance	219,246
Cost of education per pupil on enrollment	\$40.77
Cost of education per pupil on daily attendance	\$54.33
Graded schools	5,942
Teachers in graded schools	6,942
City schools organized under Article 22	91
High schools organized under Article 6	225
Village schools organized under Article 8	237
High schools accredited to the University of Nebraska	368
Agricultural high schools	18
County high schools	14
Normal training high schools drawing money	142
Students in normal training high schools	4,560
Non-accredited high schools reported for approval	250

## There are over 1,000 four minute men now enlisted in the various towns and cities of Nebraska.

The work of classifying the draft subjects in the state is progressing rapidly, and will soon be completed.

## The Nebraska state railway commission has tendered the use of its organization to President Wilson to the end that the fullest co-operation may be secured in carrying out of the president's plan of operating the railroads.

A two days' war conference will be held at Lincoln, January 18 and 19, at which federal officers from Washington and army officers from France will deliver talks on the war situation as it affects Nebraska. The meetings will be under the supervision of the state council of defense.

## All books printed in German are to be dropped from the libraries of the state institutions under the direction of the state board of control, according to an order sent out by the board. The action taken is in conformity with a request from the Nebraska state council of defense to abolish German language instruction.

It is expected that a number of the officers of the Seventh will go to military training camps during the spring and summer, with a view to fitting themselves fully for active war duty. This will augment the regiment's chances of being called into the federal service, especially if the war promises to last for another year.

## Col Phil Hall of Lincoln, who lost out as commander of the Sixth Regiment, N. G., when it was broken up at Camp Cody some months ago and used to piece out other organizations, has been assigned as colonel of the old Fourth Nebraska, now the 127th field artillery, in camp at that place. News of this assignment for the former Nebraska adjutant general and head of the Sixth regiment is contained in a telegram received by Governor Neville from Colonel Hall at Deming, N. M.

All records of the first draft are to be returned by the district appellate boards to the local boards, under instructions given by Captain Walter Anderson, draft administrator of Nebraska. The time for the transfer is at the discretion of the district boards. The instructions are to return the records when convenient and at a time when the work on the new draft system becomes slack. Secretary Frye said it would be some time before the South Platte board could accomplish the transfer. The board will again take up its duties January 7.